



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY  
January 16, 2013**

**The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at City Hall Council Chambers. 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701**

Board Members in Attendance:

**Bob Anderson, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, and James Schissler**

Staff in Attendance:

**Brad Jackson  
Chuck Lesniak  
Cole Huggins  
Daryl Slusher  
Drema Gross  
Edward Kaufman  
Heather Chaffin  
Jerry Rusthoven  
Kelly Gagnon  
Marilla Shepherd  
Philip Jaeger  
Ryan Hubrink  
Sue Barnett  
Tina Bui**

**Others Present:**

**Lauren Ross  
Ron Thrower**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:13 P.M. by Chair Mary Gay Maxwell.**

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL**

- 1. Owen Snell signed up to speak about mineral mulch**
- 2. Damon Howze signed up to speak about Reznicek Field Ball Park.**
- 3. Roy Whaley signed up to speak about water conservation.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environment Board regular meeting on December 5, 2012

**Minutes approved on Board members Schissler's motion and seconded by Board member Mary Ann Neely 5-0-0-2.**

- b. Environmental Officer's report on, hot topics, and past Board actions – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department  
**Conducted as posted.**

**4. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Name:** Covered Bridge PUD **C814-2012-005**

**Applicant:** Thrower Design

**Location:** S.H. 71 West & Covered Bridge Road (southwest corner)

**Staff Reviewer:** Heather Chaffin, PDRD Case Manager

Brad Jackson, PDRD Environmental Reviewer

**Watershed:** Williamson Creek (Barton Springs Zone and Drinking Water Protection Zone)

**Ordinance:** PUD Tracts 1-3: Without PUD - 1982 Williamson Creek Ordinance (based on Restrictive Covenant). With PUD – Comprehensive Watersheds Ordinance and Save Our Springs Initiative (current code) as amended by PUD.

PUD Tract 4: Without PUD - Comprehensive Watersheds Ordinance and Save Our Springs Initiative (current code). With PUD – Comprehensive Watersheds Ordinance and Save Our Springs Initiative (current code) as amended by PUD.

**Request:** Review environmental aspects of proposed Planned Unit Development including exceptions to the following Land Development Code sections as defined in the PUD documents:

Section 25-8-65 (*Roadways*) – This section will not apply to this project.

Section 25-8-302 (*Construction of a Building or Parking Area*) – Allow for construction on slopes greater than 15%.

Section 25-8-341 (*Cut Requirements*) – Allow for cut greater than 4 feet, but not greater than 10 feet

Section 25-8-342 (*Fill Requirements*) – Allow for fill greater than 4 feet, but not greater than 11 feet

Section 25-8-261 (*Critical Water Quality Zone Development*), 25-8-482 (*Critical Water Quality Zone*), and 25-8-514 (*Pollution Prevention Required*), subsection (B) – Allow water quality controls and a single private driveway within the CWQZ

Section 25-8-483 (*Water Quality Transition Zone*) – Allow development shown on the PUD Land Use Plan within the WQTZ

Section 25-8-514 (*Pollution Prevention Required*) – Allow additional impervious cover to exceed 25% and to allow for alternative water quality controls

Note: Section 25-8-514 is part of the Save Our Springs Initiative.

**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended for approval because the proposed PUD is environmentally superior to development that could otherwise be built under currently applicable regulations.

**Recommendation: Recommended with staff conditions and key environmental aspects of proposal as presented. Motioned by Board member James Schissler and Mary Ann Neely second. [Vote 5-0-0-2] Board members Robin Gary and Jennifer Walker were absent. See attached motion.**

## 5. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Briefing on Water Service Extension Request #3158 8647 W. Highway 290 – Kelly Gagnon, Watershed Protection Department  
**The Environmental Board recommends approval of the Water Service Extension Request #3158 8647 W. Highway 290. See attached motion.**
- b. Briefing on Watershed Protection Departments role on Wildland Fire Task Force – Ryan Hebrink, Watershed Protection Department  
**This item was conducted as posted. The Environmental Board would like a short presentation when the public education guidance document is available. The Board recommends that City of Austin landscape and arborist staff contribute to the training. The Board would like to see a copy of the training session.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant 4 Transmission Main monthly report on project status and Environmental Commissioning – David Johns, P. G., and Thais Perkins, Watershed Protection Department  
**This item is postponed to the 2/6/13 Environmental Board meeting**
- d. WTP4 – Jollyville Transmission Main monthly project status report. Robyn Smith and Jason Bybel, Public Works Department  
**This item is postponed until the 2/6/13 Environmental Board meeting.**
- e. Gray Water Stakeholder Group presentation regarding a proposed pilot program. Presented by Dr. Lauren Ross and Paige Hill  
**The Environmental Board recommends approval of the Gray Water Pilot Program. Motioned by Board member Bob Anderson and seconded by Board member Mary Ann Neely. [Vote 5-0-0-2] Board members Robin Gary and Jennifer were absent. See attached motion.**

## 6. OLD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

- 1) Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, and Jennifer Walker.  
**No report the week.**
- 2) Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales  
**No report the week.**
- 3) Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair, Bob Anderson, Robin Gary & Mary Ann Neely.  
**No report the week.**
- 4) Development Committee – Bob Anderson, Chair, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, and James Schissler.  
**Development Committee will convene on 1/22/13 at 10:00 a.m. The discussion of the mulch requirements will be added to the meeting agenda and appropriate staff will be invited to attend.**
- 5) Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, Robin Gary, & Jennifer Walker.  
**The Environmental Board request to schedule a field trip with Kevin Theusen, AWU.**

- 6) Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Mary Ann Neely & Bob Anderson

**No report the week.**

- 7) Reports from Board representatives to other committees.

**Mary Ann Neely is the Environmental Board's representative for the TMDL Implementation Plan.**

7. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items

- a) **Schedule WTP4 Committee meeting prior to the 2/6/13 regular meeting.**
- b) **The Development Committee meeting on 1-22-13 at 10:00 a.m.**
- c) **The discussion about changes to the mulch requirements will be discussed at the 1/22/13 Development Committee meeting.**
- d) **Contact Mr. Thuesen about the WQPL fieldtrip.**

8. ADJOURNMENT

**Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.**



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 011613 4a**

Date: January 16, 2013

Subject: Covered Bridge Planned Unit Development

Motioned By: James Schissler, P. E.

Seconded By: Mary Ann Neely

**The Environmental Board recommends approval of the environmental aspects of proposed Planned Unit Development including the exceptions to the Land Development Code sections as stated below with the recommendations of staff as presented to the Environmental Board and contained in the PUD documents and other documents provided as backup.**

**Section 25-8-65 (Roadways) – This section will not apply to this project.**

**Section 25-8-302 (Construction of a Building or Parking Area) – Allow for construction on slopes greater than 15%.**

**Section 25-8-341 (Cut Requirements) – Allow for cut greater than 4 feet, but not greater than 10 feet**

**Section 25-8-342 (Fill Requirements) – Allow for fill greater than 4 feet, but not greater than 11 feet**

**Section 25-8-261 (Critical Water Quality Zone Development), 25-8-482 (Critical Water Quality Zone), and 25-8-514 (Pollution Prevention Required), subsection (B) – Allow water quality controls and a single private driveway within the CWQZ**

**Section 25-8-483 (Water Quality Transition Zone) – Allow development shown on the PUD Land Use Plan within the WQTZ**

**Section 25-8-514 (Pollution Prevention Required) – Allow additional impervious cover to exceed 25% and to allow for alternative water quality controls**

**Note: Section 25-8-514 is part of the Save Our Springs Initiative.**

**RATIONALE:**

The PUD as proposed would reduce the impact that is currently allowed on the property by shifting the impervious cover away from the CWQZ.

**Vote 5-0-0-2**

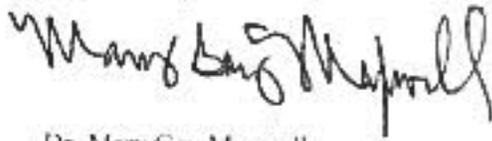
For: Anderson, Maxwell, Neely, Perales, and Schissler

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Gary and Walker

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Gay Maxwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell  
Environmental Board Chair



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 011613 5a**

Date: January 16, 2013

Subject: Water Service Extension Request #3158 8647 W. Highway 290

Motioned By: James Schissler, P. E.

Seconded By: Mary Ann Neely

**The Environmental Board recommended approval of a service extension request for Water SER #3158 8647 W. Highway 290.**

**RATIONALE:**

Connecting the City of Austin's Water Utility water system would preclude the use of the well that would be using ground water. There are not negative environmental impacts for the construction of the water line.

**Vote** 5-0-0-2

For: Anderson, Maxwell, Neely, Perales, and Schissler

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Gary and Walker

Approved By:

Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell  
Environmental Board Chair



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 011613 5e**

Date: January 16, 2013

Subject: Gray Water Stakeholder Pilot Program

Motioned By: Bob Anderson

Seconded By: Mary Ann Neely

The Environmental Board recommends endorsing the Gray Water Stakeholder Pilot Program. Board also recommends that City of Austin staff move forward in facilitating the use of gray water systems by city residents, which includes showers, baths and sinks other than Kitchen or food-handling as defined in the 2012 Unified Plumbing Code.

**RATIONALE:**

Pilot Program advances technologies and water conservation at a time when we need water conservation.

It reduces the amount of portable water during drought and beyond.

It increases plant and soil health.

**Vote 5-0-0-2**

For: Anderson, Maxwell, Neely, Perales, and Schissler

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Gary and Walker

Approved By:

Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell  
Environmental Board Chair